

EDWARD AND CELESTIA CLARISSA BROMLEY BUYS



Edward Buys was born February 10, 1841, at La Harp, Hancock County, Illinois, son of Hyrum D. and Elizabeth Huntington Buys. He married Celestia Cla-

rissa Bromley on March 23, 1857, in the Salt Lake Endowment House. She was born on June 25, 1849, at Dawsby, Lincolnshire, England, daughter of William and Sarah Bullimore Bromley. He married Margaret Hamilton on June 14, 1876. She was born October 1, 1859, at Spanish Fork, daughter of Henry and Margaret Hamilton. She left him. Edward died January 7, 1914. Celestia died October 28, 1938.

Edward Buys was the eldest son of Hyrum D. Buys, who was born October 22, 1802, in New York City. Elizabeth Huntington Buys was born February 10, 1813, in Albany, New York.

Edward came to Utah on September 15, 1850, in Captain David Evans' company, with his parents, who settled in Bountiful, Utah.

Hyrum was a shoemaker by trade. He furnished a team and helped to get rock to build the Salt Lake Temple. He died quite young, leaving his widow with nine children. Edward worked to help his mother support the family.

Edward met Celestia when he was playing at a dance in Bountiful. She came with her parents to America from England in 1850, as converts to the LDS Church. They came to Utah in June, 1865, with the Samuel D. White company.

They lived in Bountiful, then Salt Lake, and were asked to come to Heber Valley to help make settlements. They came to Charleston and lived on the Joseph E. Taylor farm while Edward built a home. He built the first shingle-roofed house in Charleston. They moved east to Big Hollow from Charleston, where they became the first settlers in this new settlement, which was called Buysville, for Edward Buys. Soon the William Bromleys came, then the Wings, Thackers, Bancrofts, Penfolds, Wahlquists, Andersons, McDonalds, Nelsons, McGuires and others.

Edward built a home with large rooms and added one large room where all Church meetings and other activities were held.

Edward was set apart as superintendent of the Sunday School and Celestia as a Sunday School teacher. William Bromley took care of the Sacrament. Celestia was chosen first president of the Primary Association by Eliza R. Snow and Emmeline B. Wells, and was set apart by Bishop Nymphus C.

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Murdock and Edward Buys, his counselor. She remained president of the Primary until they moved to Heber in 1887.

Edward was a High Priest for 15 years and county surveyor for eight years. He was deputy sheriff several years, until suffering a stroke which forced his resignation. He opened the first school in Buysville, Wasatch County. He surveyed Daniel Creek and Timpanogos irrigation water by acre feet and homesteads in Buysville and Daniel. He worked for Brigham Young and his brother on the railroad. He was buried in the Charleston cemetery.

Celestia Buys, better known as "Aunt Clara," was loved by everyone who knew her. She was hurt badly when young and had to use crutches. She never complained, no matter how difficult her life became. She always had a smile for everyone and lived an active, useful life.

She, being an expert with the needle, made all the clothes for the family, including suits for her husband. After she moved to Heber she and Mrs. Duncan opened a millinery shop, both being very adept in making hats and dresses. Mrs. Nymphus Murdock and Mrs. Danielson bought her first hats. Finally illness prevented her from continuing her work. She fell and broke her hip and shoulder, so had to go about in a wheel chair.

In Heber they were neighbors to President Abram Hatch, whose father came to Utah in the same company as the Bromleys. Celestia was one of the first members of the Daughters of the Utah Pioneers, being the oldest pioneer in Heber at the time of death. She was 89 years old and is buried in Charleston. Her daughter Clara and husband, Alma Cummings, cared for her until her death. They now live in her home.

Edward and Celestia were the parents of: Hyrum D., William Edward, Sarah Elizabeth, Amanda C., Mary Ann, Joseph H., Charlotte, Alma, Martha R., Archie D., Daniel H., Clara May and Celestia C.

As it was a practice request of the Church to practice polygamy, Edward married Margaret Hamilton on June 14, 1876. They separated in 1887 and Margaret married Henry Boren, and they moved to Idaho.

Edward and Margaret's children are: Henry D., Alice J., Margaret J., Rhoda A., Mellissa, Matta E. and Edna A.